

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 091507

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, CI

SUBJECT: REFUGEES EX-CHILE - UNHCR - ICEM

REF: GENEVA 2698 AND THOMAS -- KELLOGG LETTER OF APRIL 11,
1974

FOR CARLIN

1. PLEASE DETERMINE WHETHER UNHCR WOULD BE AMENABLE TO
COMBINING POSSIBLE GRANTS TO BOTH IT AND ICEM FUNNELING
THEM THROUGH UNHCR. A PORTION OF CONTRIBUTION OF UNHCR
WOULD BE EARMARKED FOR ICEM OPERATIONS WITH RESPECT TO
CHILEAN REFUGEE PROGRAM. WE VIEW THIS AS PREFERABLE
METHOD OF MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS DUE TO RESTRICTIONS OF
FUNDING OF CERTAIN ICEM MOVEMENTS, TO ASSURE ONLY SINGLE
PAYMENT FOR SAME OPERATIONS, AND TO ESTABLISH UNHCR
CONTROL OF OPERATION, EVEN THOUGH ICEM REQUEST IS FOR
FUNDING OF MOVEMENTS OF NON-UNHCR MANDATED PERSONS.

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2. IN REVIEWING ICEM AND UNHCR REQUESTS FOR FUNDING FOR CHILEAN REFUGEE PROGRAM IT WOULD APPEAR THAT COMBINED U.S. CONTRIBUTION MIGHT BE AS HIGH AS \$450,000, FOLLOWING ROUGH ONE-THIRD FUNDING GUIDELINE. THIS IS OF SUFFICIENT MAGNITUDE THAT WE CANNOT ABSORB IT WITHIN OUR REGULAR APPROPRIATION AND THEREFORE PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION WOULD BE NEEDED IN ORDER TO FUND IT.

3. BASED ON INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US, IT APPEARS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT UNHCR WILL BE ABLE TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT WITH PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT WHEREBY GOP WILL AGREE TO ALLOW ANY SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF EX-CHILE REFUGEES TO REMAIN IN THAT COUNTRY. SHOULD THIS PROVE TO BE THE CASE, COSTS OF THAT OPERATION WILL RISE SIGNIFICANTLY FOR UNHCR AND WILL LIKELY ENTAIL ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY COSTS FOR ICEM AS WELL. THUS, WE WOULD ANTICIPATE A LATER REQUEST FROM BOTH FOR SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO COVER ADDITIONAL COSTS THAT OPERATION. THESE MIGHT ALSO BE OF MAGNITUDE TO REQUIRE PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION IN ORDER TO FUND.

4. WE NATURALLY PREFER TO REQUEST ONLY ONE PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION FOR POSSIBLE CHILEAN REFUGEE PROGRAM. THUS, PLEASE ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN FROM BOTH UNHCR AND ICEM A REASONABLE ESTIMATE OF THEIR OVERALL FUNDING NEEDS FOR CHILEAN REFUGEE PROGRAM SHOULD IT BE NECESSARY TO MOVE APPROXIMATELY 3-4,000 EX-CHILE REFUGEES FROM PERU. WITH THOSE FIGURES, WE WILL SEEK ONE-TIME PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION FOR FUNDING ENTIRE CHILEAN REFUGEE PROGRAM.

5. ALSO, PLEASE ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE FROM BOTH UNHCR AND ICEM THE TIME FRAME WITHIN WHICH CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NEEDED TO KEEP CHILE REFUGEE PROGRAM OPERATING. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT NATIONAL COMMITTEE IN ARGENTINA IS CURRENTLY VIRTUALLY WITHOUT FUNDS EVEN FOR EMERGENCY MAINTAINENCE OF EX-CHILE REFUGEES IN THAT COUNTRY.

6. IN VIEW OF STRONG CONCERN ON BEHALF CHILEAN REFUGEES BY EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY SCANDI-NAVIAN COUNTRIES, WHAT TYPE OF RESPONSE IS EXPECTED
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FROM OTHER NATIONS TO UNHCR AND ICEM REQUESTS? ARE BOTH ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVELY PURSUING ALTERNATE FUNDING SOURCES? IS PROJECTED ONE-THIRD FAIR SHARE REASONABLE ASSUMPTION?

7. APPRECIATE ANSWERS TO ABOVE AS WELL AS ANY GENEVA COMMENTS AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATES. RUSH

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